

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A bacterial composition for the degradation of organic fats, comprising bacterial strains *Klebsiella oxytoca*, *Serratia odorifera*, and *Aeromonas hydrophyla*.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the bacterial composition comprises 60% to 90% of the strain *Klebsiella oxytoca*, 5% to 20% of the bacteria strain *Serratia odorifera*, and 5% to 20% of the bacteria strain *Aeromonas hydrophyla*, the total of the three strains being equal to 100%.

4. (previously presented) A method for the treatment or pre-treatment of effluent rich in organic fats, comprising adding the bacterial composition according to claim 1 to said effluent.

5. (previously presented) A process for the pre-treatment of effluent rich in organic fats, comprising directly pre-treating said effluent containing said fats as said effluent leaves the place of its production and comprises the following stages:

- supplying a homogenisation and/or processing vessel (1) with effluent to be pre-treated, as said effluent is produced

and activating a recirculation circuit (2) between the vessel and a biological reactor (3) so as to obtain in said biological reactor (3) a dilution rate of the fats inversely proportional to the fat concentration initially present in the effluent to be pre-treated and situated between 0.400 h^{-1} and 1.500 h^{-1} for a fat concentration contained in said effluent to be pre-treated entering the homogenisation and/or processing vessel (1) of 1 g/l,

- degrading said fats in said biological reactor (3) using a bacterial composition according to claim 1, and

- discharging the pre-treated effluent, now containing practically no fats, to a final treatment unit.

6. (previously presented) The process according to claim 5, wherein the dilution rate obtained in the biological reactor (3) is inversely proportional to the fat concentration initially present in the effluent to be pre-treated and situated between 0.528 h^{-1} and 1.056 h^{-1} for a fat concentration contained in said effluent to be pre-treated entering the homogenisation and/or processing vessel (1) of 1 g/l.

7. (previously presented) The process according to claim 5, wherein the fat concentration of the effluent to be pre-treated entering the homogenisation and/or processing vessel (1) is less than 40 g/l.

8. (previously presented) The process according to claim 5, wherein the arrival in the homogenisation and/or

processing vessel (1) of the recirculation water discharged by the recirculation circuit (2) is effected from above by a spraying device (4).

9. (previously presented) The process according to claim 5, wherein the pre-treated effluent is discharged using a decanter (5) on the upper part of which a floating pump (6) is provided for the elimination of surface floating sludge that cannot be decanted.

10. (previously presented) The process according to claim 9, wherein the surface floating sludge that cannot be decanted is reinjected into, or upstream of the homogenisation and/or processing vessel (1).

11. (cancelled)